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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor/Applicant:

**Kevin A. Rickman**

**Filed: February 11, 2004**

**Serial No.: 10/776,880**

**For: POOL COVER DRAIN SYSTEM**

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§

**Art Unit: 3751**

**Examiner: Charles E. Phillips**

**Attorney Docket No.: A310443.1US**

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir,

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Office Action in the above identified application that was mailed on August 26, 2005. Applicant appreciates the thorough review of the subject of the invention and the assessment of the prior art.

However, Applicant believes there is some confusion over the election required in the previous Office Action that was mailed on May 23, 2005. In that Office Action, Applicant was required to elect between species the Examiner found to be patentably distinct as represented by Figures 1, 5, and 6 respectively. Claim 1 was however recognized to be a generic, linking claim. In response, Applicant elected the species illustrated in Figure 1 and elected to continue prosecution of claims 1-5 and 7-17, withdrawing claims 6 and 18-30. Applicant was therefore understandably confused to find that in the current Office Action claims 1-5, 7, 8, and 14 were indicated as being objected to and withdrawn for not reading on the elected embodiment of Figure 3.

**PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD**  
Effective October 1, 2003

Application or Docket Number

10776-880

~~A310449.7US~~

**CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I**

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)
TOTAL CLAIMS	30	
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA
TOTAL CHARGEABLE CLAIMS	30 minus 20 =	10
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	4 minus 3 =	1
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT <input type="checkbox"/>		

\* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2

**CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II**

6-27-05

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)
AMENDMENT A	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
Total	30	Minus 30	= 0
Independent	2	Minus 2	= 0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>			

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)
AMENDMENT B	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
Total	43	Minus 30	= 13
Independent	6	Minus 4	= 2
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>			

	(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)
AMENDMENT C	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
Total		Minus	=
Independent		Minus	=
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>			

- \* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
- \* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20."
- \* If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3."
- The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

SMALL ENTITY TYPE ☐

OR OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	385.00
XS 9=	
X43=	
+145=	
TOTAL	

RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	770.00
XS18=	
X86=	
+290=	
TOTAL	

SMALL ENTITY

OR OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
XS 9=	
X43=	
+145=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
XS18=	
X86=	
+290=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
XS 9=	
X43=	
+145=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	5250

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
XS18=	
X86=	
+290=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
XS 9=	
X43=	
+145=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
XS18=	
X86=	
+290=	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	